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# BOROUGH OF ST. IVES (HUNTS)



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J.W.

## ANNUAL REPORT

OF

## MEDICAL OFFICER

## OF HEALTH

AND

## PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR 1963



ANNUAL REPORT  
of the Borough of Saint Ives (Hunts.) for the year ended  
31st December, 1963

To:-

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of  
Saint Ives (Hunts.).

Your Worship and Members of the Council,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year ended 31st December, 1963.

Although no significant change in the population figure for the Borough occurred the steady rise which has been evident for several years has continued. A further rise in the birth rate is noted and the figure remains well in advance of both the County and National level.

The Death Rate on the other hand shows a marked increase on the figure for previous years and is now above the level for England and Wales as a whole. The increase is due to the greater number of deaths from Cardio-Vascular disease there being almost twice as many this year as there were in 1962. An examination of the mortality table, in this report, shows that half the deaths in the Borough were due to disease of the heart or blood vessels and occurred in persons of 65 years and over.

An outbreak of Paratyphoid fever occurred in the neighbourhood and resulted in several cases being notified from the Town. Steps were quickly taken to investigate the source of the infection which was finally attributed to an imported egg product used extensively in the catering industry. My thanks are due particularly to the Public Health Laboratory in Cambridge whose services were invaluable during the whole period of the outbreak.

Private housing development in the Ramsey Road area continued during the year and new development in the Fairfields area of the Town commenced. No new Council house

scheme was undertaken in 1963 but a number of unfit houses were dealt with under the Slum Clearance programme. Consideration is being given to the re-development of the Crescent site for providing further Council accommodation.

Negotiations regarding the long awaited Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme for the Town continued during the year and the consulting engineers are preparing the necessary details to enable tenders to be invited. It is hoped that the contractors will commence work about the middle of 1964.

The Cambridge Water Company took over the Borough's undertaking in April 1963 and supplies to the town have been maintained. The new link main from Pidley has greatly improved existing supplies generally.

In conclusion I should like to thank Members of the Council for their kindness and consideration to me and to their officers for all the help they have given me during the year.

I am, Your obedient Servant,  
**J. CALDWELL,**  
Medical Officer of Health.

1963

*Mayor:*

Councillor R. A. SINGFIELD

**Public Health Staff**

*Medical Officer of Health:*

J. CALDWELL,  
L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.&S., D.P.H.

*Chief Public Health Inspector:*

J. G. REESON,  
C.S.I.B., M.R.S.H., A.M.I.P.H.E., Mun.B.I.

*Additional Public Health Inspector:*

A. G. WILLIAMS,  
M.A.P.H.I.

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**GENERAL STATISTICS**

Area ... ... ... ...	2326	acres
Rateable value ... ... ... ...	£198,271	
Value of Penny Rate ... ... ... ...	£796	
Number of inhabited houses (approx.)	1,494	
Population ... ... ... ...	4,480	

## VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	M.	F.	Total	Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	27.2
Legitimate	68	51	119	Comparability Factor	.93
Illegitimate	1	2	3	Corrected Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	25.3
Total	69	53	122	(Ditto for England and Wales)	18.2
<b>Still Births</b>				Rate per 1,000 (live and still) Births	Nil
Legitimate	—	—	—		
Illegitimate	—	—	—		
Total	—	—	—	(Ditto for England and Wales)	17.3
<b>Deaths</b>				Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	15.8
All ages	36	35	71	Comparability Factor	1.06
				Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	16.8
				(Ditto for England and Wales)	12.2

The following table indicates the trends in the Birth and Death Rate over the past five years and compares them with those for the County of Huntingdon and for England and Wales.

BIRTH RATE		1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
St. Ives Borough	..	22.2	24.6	23.1	24.6	25.3
County of Huntingdon		19.6	19.7	20.6	21.6	20.1
England and Wales	..	16.5	17.1	17.4	18.0	18.2
DEATH RATE						
St. Ives Borough	..	9.1	9.0	9.3	9.6	16.8
County of Huntingdon		10.1	10.6	10.1	10.4	11.3
England and Wales	..	11.6	11.5	12.0	11.9	12.2
Deaths of infants under 1 year						
Legitimate	...	...	...	3	1	4
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total				3	1	4

### Death Rates of infants under 1 year.

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	32.8
(Ditto for England and Wales)	...	...	20.9

## CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

						Total Cases Notified
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	2
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	—
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	104
Acute Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	—
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	—
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	8
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	—
Infective Hepatitis	...	...	...	...	...	—
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	—
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	—
					Total	115
						—

## TUBERCULOSIS

Total number on Register on 31st December, 1963	...	20	
Pulmonary	18	Non-pulmonary	2

AGE PERIODS	New Cases—Diagnosed				New Cases—Transfers			
	Respiratory		Non-Res.		Respiratory		Non-Res.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10	..	..	..	I	..	..	..	..
15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
35	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
45	..	..	..	I	..	..	..	..
55	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
65 and upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	..	I	I	0	0	0	0	0

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952, in connection with persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

**CAUSES OF DEATH**  
 (Registrar General's List)

Cause	Male	Female
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	—
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	—	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	3	2
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	8	5
Coronary disease, angina	7	5
Other heart disease	4	10
Pneumonia	1	2
Bronchitis	1	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	1
Congenital malformations	2	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	4
Motor Vehicle accidents	2	—
All other accidents	4	—
Suicide	—	2
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Total all causes	36	35
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## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

### (a) Laboratory Facilities

The following Laboratory Facilities have been available to this Authority and to General Practitioners in the area:—

Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge. Tel.: Cambridge 55526.

Public Analyst, (S. Greenburgh, Ph.D., B.Sc., F.I.C.), Tenison Road, Cambridge. Tel.: Cambridge 2097.

### (b) Ambulance Services

Ambulances administered by the County Ambulance Service, operating in conjunction with the County Fire Service, have been available on doctor's orders. Tel.: Huntingdon 348.

### (c) Home Nursing

A Nurse/Midwife resident in St. Ives (Tel.: St. Ives 2321) employed and supervised by the Huntingdon County Council carried out Home Nursing and attended Maternity Cases in the Borough.

### (d) Clinics and Treatment Centres

(i) The following services are provided by the Huntingdon County Council:—

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Minor Ailments	Schoolchildren	3rd Friday in month. 10.30-11.30 a.m.	Health Clinic, Station Approach, St. Ives.
Infant Welfare	Children (0-5 yrs.)	Every Friday. 2-4 p.m.	Ditto.
Dental	Pre-school and schoolchildren.  Pre-natal and nursing mothers.	Every Monday 9 a.m.-12 noon. 1.30-4.30 p.m.  Every Saturday 9 a.m.-12 noon.	Ditto.

(ii) The following Health Services are provided by the Regional Hospital Board:—

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Chest	All ages	Every Thursday. 10 a.m.-12 noon.	County Hospital, Huntingdon.
Venereal Diseases	All cases	Tuesdays, 3-6.30 p.m. Thursdays, 4-6.30 p.m.	Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.
	Males	Mondays, 4.30-6.30 p.m. Tuesdays, 5.30-7 p.m.	Out-Patients Department, Memorial Hospital, Peterborough.
	Females and Children	Tuesdays, 10.30-12 noon Thursdays, 4.30-6.30 p.m.	
Orthopaedic	Pre-school and schoolchildren	1st, 2nd and 4th Fridays in month (Sister) 10 a.m.-12 noon.	Health Clinic, Station Approach, St. Ives

(iii) The following service is provided under the Supplementary Ophthalmic Scheme of the National Health Service:—

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Ophthalmic	Pre-school and schoolchildren	1st and 3rd Fridays in month (by appointment except in emergency). 10 a.m.-12 noon. 2-3 p.m.	Health Clinic, Nursery Road, Huntingdon

Medical, Surgical, Orthopædic, Skin, Obstetrical, Pædiatric, Gynæcological and Dental Out-patients' clinics are held at Huntingdon County Hospital and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, to which General Practitioners can refer their patients for specialist investigation.

#### (e) Hospital Services.

**Fever.** Cases of infectious disease requiring hospital treatment are admitted to Isolation Hospitals at Cambridge, Peterborough or Ely.

**General Hospital Services** were provided by the County Hospital, Huntingdon and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

**Maternity Cases** were admitted to Primrose Lane Maternity Hospital, Huntingdon and Mill Road Hospital, Cambridge.

# REPORT OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

## Sanitary Circumstances in the Area

### 1. Water Supply.

The new 10" main into the Borough was completed in February but was not brought into service until April 1st..

On April 1st the Cambridge Water Company took over the responsibility of providing water to the Borough and the Council's undertaking was handed over.

During the part of the year when the Council was responsible for the water no problems were reported.

### 2. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

At the end of the year the preparation of all plans and documents for the above Scheme was nearing completion, and it was hoped to obtain tenders during the early spring so that commencement could be made on the Scheme in 1964.

### 3. Rivers and Streams.

Minor works were undertaken during the year.

### 4. Closet Accommodation.

The number of pail closets in the Borough was reduced still further and only a very small number remained. These were all in properties which had been the subject of action by the Council under the Housing Acts.

The Contract with the Rural Council for the collection was discontinued on March 31st.

### 5. Public Cleansing.

The refuse collection service has again been satisfactory, and the number of bins is increasing all the time as the new houses in the Borough continue to be occupied.

### 6. Swimming Pool.

A 5½ acre site was purchased during the year by the Joint Committee and the Consulting Engineers were asked to prepare plans for the new pool, and the ancillary buildings.

### 7. Shops Act.

No infringements were found during the year.

## **8. Caravan Site.**

The site was fully occupied at the end of the year and an application had been received for the extension of the site to accommodate a further 50 vans.

The site was well maintained and run. Blocks of garages were added during the year.

## **9. Smoke Abatement.**

One infringement was found during the year but the owner quickly remedied the trouble when his attention was drawn to the matter.

## **10. Bed Bugs.**

No reports of infestation were received during the year and no premises were found to be infested.

## **11. Rat and Mice Destruction.**

Complaints of rat and mice infestation were dealt with as they arose.

## **12. Petroleum Acts.**

The number of licences issued during the year was as follows:-

Over 1,000 gallons	2
500—1,000 gallons	8
Under 500 gallons	10

## **13. Slaughterhouse.**

The building of a new slaughterhouse commenced in June and was completed in November. Operations commenced on December 2nd, and the use of the old premises in North Road was discontinued.

## **14. Noise Abatement.**

It was again necessary to draw traders' attention to the provisions of the Noise Abatement Act concerning the ringing of chimes. In all cases the practice ceased immediately afterwards.

## INSPECTIONS UNDER THE FACTORIES ACTS.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6	10	28	Nil	Nil
(2) Section 7	39	60	Nil	Nil
Total	49	88	Nil	Nil

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(a) insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) unsuitable or defective	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other Offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Outwork).	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### ICE CREAM

Number of Retailers on register	...	...	12
Number of Inspections	...	...	39

### MEAT AND SLAUGHTERHOUSE

All carcases leaving the slaughterhouses were inspected before departure and the following tables show the quantities of meat condemned:

Cattle	4,246 lbs.
Calves	— lbs.
Sheep and Lambs	— lbs.
Pigs	2,001 lbs.
 Total	 6,247 lbs.

Total weight of meat condemned:

2 tons 15 cwt. 6 st. 3 lbs.

All condemned meat is sterilized by contractors after leaving Abattoir.

### POULTRY INSPECTION

During routine inspection of poultry at a local processing station my attention was drawn to the carcasses of broilers which were being eviscerated. These were obviously affected with septic precarditis and a systematic examination resulted in over 2,000 carcasses being rejected in 8 days.

### FOOD CONDEMNED DURING 1963

	lbs.	oz.
Corned Beef	45	0
Ham	40	13
Tinned Veal	6	0
Ox Liver (Imported)	32	0
Lamb Livers (Imported)	30	0
Fruit	14	0
Broilers	6,384	
Whole Egg	300	Kilos
Egg White	90	Kilos
Frozen Food	552	Packets

### BAKEHOUSES

There is only one bakehouse in the Borough and this has been maintained in a satisfactory condition.

## FOOD PREMISES

Inspections have been made at frequent intervals of all the food premises in the Borough, which generally are maintained in a very satisfactory condition.

## FOOD POISONING

Cases of paratyphoid were notified during the year, and swabs were examined from local employees in a food premises. As a result of these examinations one employee did not follow his occupation for three weeks.

## HOUSING

### New Houses

The number of new houses erected during the year was as follows:-

Council	Nil.
Private	82

### Overcrowding.

No cases of overcrowding were reported during the year.

## INSPECTION AND ACTION DURING THE YEAR

Number of houses reported to be in state unfit for habitation	...	17
Number of houses in which action was not determined in 1963	...	4
Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was signed that the premises owned would not be relet for habitation ...		2
Number of houses found to be unfit where owner voluntarily agreed not to re-let ...		1
Houses included in Clearance area	...	10

J. G. REESON,  
Surveyor and Public Health Inspector









The Ridley Press (St. Ives) Ltd.  
St. Ives & Cambridge.